U.S. Consulate General Frankfurt Security Message for U.S. Citizens

May 15, 2012

FRANKFURT DEMONSTRATIONS May 16 – 19, 2012

German courts have approved the following "Blockupy Frankfurt" demonstrations from May 16 to 19, 2012.

May 16, 2012 - "Rave" demonstration during the evening at the City Center.

May 19, 2012 – Large demonstrations throughout the downtown Frankfurt area (near the European Central Bank, but could spread throughout downtown, including the Frankfurt Stock Exchange, various banks, the main train station, etc.)

Although Hessen State Courts have not authorized demonstrations May 17-18, unauthorized demonstrations are possible.

Public Transportation Affected:

Due to the large number of potential demonstrators (estimated at up to 40,000), Frankfurt's city administration has decided to close and lock some public transportation stations during the demonstrations.

The following lines will encounter restrictions from May 16 - 19, 2012 (and may also be affected the morning of May 20):

S1 – S6, S8, S9: Running, but not stopping at Taunusanlage.

U1 – U5, U8: Running, but not stopping at Willi-Brandt-Platz.

Street cars: Line 11 and 12 arriving from direction Schwanheim and Hoechst will end at the main train station. From direction Fechenheim, they will end at Boerneplatz/Stoltzestrasse.

Bus line 64: Will run only between Ginnheim and Miquelallee. No service between Miquelallee and the main train station.

Please note that other U-bahn stations such as Konstablerwache, Hauptwache, Eschenheimer Tor, etc., servicing the downtown/financial and other districts may also be closed with little notice as a flexible response by the city to the "Blockupy" activities. Additional train, streetcar, and bus lines may also be affected.

Precautions:

The possibility for spontaneous violence exists, and Frankfurt police will maintain a presence at the events in greater than normal numbers due to the number of estimated participants. Monitor local media, exercise caution, and maintain a high level of vigilance and situational awareness, avoid large protests and other public gatherings from May 16-19. In the event of an emergency, contact the Police at 110 or Fire at 112, as appropriate.

U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Germany are strongly advised to enroll in the State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). By enrolling, you will receive updated security and emergency information and it will be easier for the U.S. Embassy to contact you in case of emergency. U.S. citizens without internet access may enroll directly at the Embassy or Consulate.

Current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States, or via a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). You can also stay up to date by bookmarking our <u>Consular Affairs website</u>, which contains the current <u>Worldwide Caution</u>, <u>Travel Alerts and Travel Warnings</u>. Follow us on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u>.

The <u>U.S. Consulate General in Frankfurt</u> is located at Giessenerstrasse 30, tel: 069 7535-0, fax: 069 7535-2252, or email: GermanyACS@state.gov.